

## Two Wives and His 2 Children Share 3 Rooms

Brooklyn Laborer Held on Charge of Having Belgian as Well as French Mate; Sequel to World War

Talk by Knocking Wood

Marriage With Widow Failed to Ease Longing to See His Daughters

Antoine Ruyts, a Belgian, was held for examination yesterday in Fifth Avenue police court, accused of having a French as well as a Belgian wife in his home at 312 Fifty-third Street, Brooklyn.

The international family in the three rooms occupied by Ruyts is a by-product of the war. When the Germans marched through Belgium, Ruyts was living in Antwerp with his wife, Charlotte, and their five children. When the Germans took Antwerp the family was broken up. Antoine was sent to a prison camp.

He made his escape in 1916 and got through the lines into France. He settled in Paris and made the acquaintance of Mme. Marie Pierre-Labar, a sprightly widow of thirty-eight, whose buxomness contrasted favorably with the pallid and fragile wife three years younger who still was in Belgium, whether living or dead Antoine did not know.

It was as if the horror of German occupation had been the end of the world and from its chaos Antoine had escaped to another planet. He found Paris a pleasant place and the widow Pierre-Labar not by any means the least attractive feature. The old life in Antwerp faded gradually from Antoine's recollection.

Married at Ellis Island

In January, 1920, he still had refused to join the rest of the world in taking up things where they had been dropped and decided to put a further barrier between the present and the past by coming to the United States with the widow Pierre-Labar. They came and were astonished to discover that they could not enter unmarried.

There was only one thing to be done and, according to the police, Antoine and the widow Pierre-Labar were married. The ceremony, it is alleged, was performed by a mission priest at Ellis Island and they entered the country as man and wife.

The Atlantic, however, failed to divorce Antoine from the past as completely as he had hoped. He found himself pining for his daughter, and last November he notified his Belgian wife, Charlotte, to join him in America and bring with her fifteen-year-old Virginia and thirteen-year-old Philomene.

They came, and Antoine is said to have sworn with a hand on the head of each of his beloved daughters that the widow Pierre-Labar longer should have any part in his life.

French Wife Rules Household

Things did not turn out that way, however. The widow Pierre-Labar is said to have been the dominant figure in the crowded household, to have communicated her wishes by a telegraphic system of drumming on the woodwork with her fingers to the Flemish woman, who could not or would not comprehend her French, and to have taken Charlotte to work every day in the costumer's on West Forty-seventh Street, where she herself was employed, and to have brought her back at night.

Neighbors who wondered at the continual rapping that came from the Ruyts apartment when the two women were there finally got an inkling of the situation and complained to the authorities, with the result that an agent for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children made an investigation and Antoine was arrested. The widow Pierre-Labar and pale-faced, silent Charlotte were alone in the apartment last night.

Mrs. Delehanty Robbed in Times Square Tunnel

Wife of Supreme Court Justice Directs Chase After Alleged Thief, Who Is Arrested

Joseph Davies, of 288 State Street, Brooklyn, was arrested yesterday after a short chase in the tunnel at Times Square, which leads from the Seventh Avenue subway line to the Grand Central shuttle. He was taken to the West Forty-seventh Street station, where he was charged with attempting to steal the handbag of Mrs. Annie Delehanty, wife of Supreme Court Justice Francis B. Delehanty.

Mrs. Delehanty said she was walking through the tunnel to board a shuttle train when some one snatched her bag from behind. She turned around and saw a man trying to work his way backward through the crowd. She shouted, "Stop that man. He has my bag!"

He dropped the bag and began to run. A large crowd pursued him to the entrance of the F. R. T. station, where Davies was stopped by a guard and turned over to a detective.

Gale Threatens Hunger Strike

LAREDO, Tex., April 23.—Linn A. E. Gale, wanted on charges of being a draft evader and of violation of the espionage law, who was turned over to military authorities at Fort McIntosh last night after deportation from Mexico, declared today President Obregon has no right to turn him over to the United States, and that if he was imprisoned he would go on a hunger strike.

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## Woman Lures Flirt to Jail; His Wife Helps Convict Him

Robert Ellsworth, of 415 East 151st Street, was arrested on the steps of the East 125th Street police station yesterday on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Mrs. Anna Rosenthal, of 156 East 125th Street, who appeared in Night Court last night as complainant when Ellsworth's case was called, told the court that Ellsworth had tried to force his attentions on her.

Mrs. Rosenthal testified that Ellsworth followed her from the 125th Street subway station when she was returning from a shopping tour, and that on the way from the station to her home the man accosted her and attempted to take her arm. She further testified that when she repulsed him he used abusive language.

As she neared her home Ellsworth, according to Mrs. Rosenthal, asked her where she was going.

"I'll show you where I'm going," the woman said, and walked three doors past her home in 125th Street to the police station. Before Ellsworth, who was right behind Mrs. Rosenthal, realized it, he was on the steps of the station. At the door to the station Mrs. Rosenthal met a patrolman.

"Arrest that man," she said. "He's trying to flirt with me." The patrolman did.

When asked in Night Court whether he had any witnesses to call in his behalf, Ellsworth said he had, and called his wife to the witness stand.

Mrs. Ellsworth testified she had not seen her husband in two days, nor had she seen a cent of his last week's salary. She also told the court her husband was in the habit of spending all his money on Broadway "gold diggers."

As Mrs. Ellsworth left the stand her husband whispered to a court attendant: "Wonderful witness! Nice witness!" He was found guilty and remanded for sentence to-morrow.

## Charges Insane Veterans Are Being Neglected

Head of Legion's Hospital Inquiry Reveals Lack of Treatment for Unbalanced

Cornelius W. Wickersham, chairman of the American Legion's investigating committee, made public a report yesterday concerning the need of hospital facilities for veterans of the World War, in which he said that the number of insane in this state was increasing at the rate of 250 or 300 a month, that several hundred lunatic former soldiers were at large and that tuberculosis was increasing almost as rapidly as insanity.

There were 117 beds for those mentally unsound in Federal hospitals in this city, he said, and the government had arranged for the accommodation of 759 more in state hospitals. No provision had been made, he asserted, for the treatment of such cases and in none of the institutions were any of the insane veterans getting attention looking to a cure.

Ten thousand veterans, it is said, are in government hospitals which are regarded as unsuitable. The number of veterans in such institutions and being cared for in private institutions at government expense is said to be 19,240. In 1927, it is said, the need for hospital facilities for veterans will reach its peak, and from 33,000 to 50,000 beds will be required.

This informal report was made at the request of F. W. Galbraith Jr., national commander of the Legion, who is getting behind a national drive to hasten through Congress the remedial legislation recommended by President Harding's committee which was headed by Brigadier General Charles G. Dawes.

According to Mr. Wickersham, the Legion, nationally and by states, does not intend to rest until a government department to look after these men is created and functioning properly.

The next hearing of the investigating committee will take place Tuesday afternoon in the Fox Hills Hospital, Staten Island.

Murderer Adjudged Insane

OSSINING, April 23.—Frederick Wilhelm Lehman, who was sentenced to death last October for the murder of

been adjudged insane, it was learned today. He was examined by a lunacy board last Monday. It is expected that he will be immediately transferred to the Dannemora State Hospital.

Man Held for Speeding Given \$5-a-Day Job

Spectator in Court Comes to Rescue of Idle Carpenter and Judge Frees Him

Martin Melnikowsky, of 655 Park Avenue, Brooklyn, a carpenter, was arrested for speeding on Hillside Avenue, Jamaica, while looking for work yesterday.

Melnikowsky was telling Magistrate Kochendorfer about his long and fruitless search for work and of his troubles to provide for his wife and two children, when a man stood up in the rear of the courtroom and said:

"I need a carpenter, your honor, and I'll give this man a job at \$5 a day."

The magistrate, not to be outdone, gave Melnikowsky a suspended sentence, and the carpenter left the court with his new employer.

Says He Saw Ligi Beside Bomb Wagon

night and said that he had obtained convincing evidence that Ligi was not in New York at the time of the Wall Street explosion.

He said that he had accounted for Ligi's actions from September 8 to September 25. Department of Justice agents have not been satisfied with the prisoner's recital of his doings during that time. It was said yesterday by an agent that Ligi's story, where it concerns that period of time, does not stand up against their investigation.

Mr. Nelles said that after Ligi quit working in the restaurant he went to work with a road gang on the county road. He was so engaged for part of the time, he said, and for the remainder he was out of employment.

"All this talk about subterranean passages and sash weights is pure poppycock," said Mr. Nelles. "I went up among the people of the Italian colony in Scranton and many of them told me that they had seen Ligi at various times during the interim in question."

When asked how it happened the Department of Justice was not aware of this, he said that the Italians were afraid of an official inquiry, and perhaps had remained silent.

U. S. Chamber of Commerce Would Recast Civil Service

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau WASHINGTON, April 23.—Recommending that the present Federal Civil Service system should be completely recast, the committee on budget and efficiency of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States today dispatched to the 1,400 industrial and commercial organizations holding membership in the chamber nine suggested reforms dealing with the reclassification of personnel and related problems.

Adequate and equitable pay for the half-million government employees is urged by the committee, which seeks to obtain the opinion of the chamber's membership in a referendum vote on the proposals.

Toronto Idle Hike to City Hall, Demand Work

300 Unemployed Present Resolution to Mayor Insisting Upon Financial Relief

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE TRIBUNE TORONTO, April 23.—Three hundred unemployed marched to the City Hall to-day and presented a resolution demanding work immediately. The men met at the Labor Temple at 10 o'clock and the committee drafted a resolution to present to Mayor Church and the Board of Control, demanding "to be gainfully employed immediately, or failing this, allowance to be granted at the rate of \$15 a week for single men and \$20 for married men, with an additional \$2 for each child."

"Be it further resolved that, failing this, they adopt such methods that will accomplish the results desired," the resolution concluded.

The men then lined up and marched to the City Hall, where they presented the resolution to the Mayor and controllers.

The Chief of Police called out the police reserves this morning and mustered more than a hundred uniformed men at Police Headquarters to prevent disorders.

McCreery For Fur Storage Absolute Protection

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For Monday

A Special Offering of Women's Silk Dresses offering remarkable value at \$50.00

There are several attractive, up-to-date models to choose from in this interesting assortment. The materials are Canton crepe, crepe de Chine, and various silk materials in combination with georgette. The sizes are 34 to 44, inclusive.

(Ready-to-wear Dresses, Third Floor)

The Wool Fabrics Dep't is displaying, among many beautiful and seasonable textiles, a most interesting selection of Embroidered Serges

which are—and will be—much in demand for tailored frocks of the straight-line type. These embroidered effects are extremely handsome, and may now be obtained at prices that will make a general appeal.

This Department is also featuring Semi-made Wool Skirts

in a smart box-plaited model, stylishly developed in the plaids and stripes so much in vogue. The price (a special figure, although in the regular stock) is \$14.75

Waist sizes, 26 to 34 inches (First Floor)

Vogue Patterns for Spring and Summer are on sale on the Fourth Floor

Some of the prices, in stock: Capes and Wraps, \$42.00 to \$50.00 Coats 32.50 to \$32.50 (Third Floor)

These Hats are altogether new and decidedly smart. Among them are models featuring shapes, colors and trimmings suited to all types, including not only the youthful and riant, but also the mature and conservative. (First Floor Millinery Department)

For Monday A Value-giving Sale of Sterling Silverware comprising a special assortment of eminently desirable hollow ware, marked at prices that will suggest liberal buying.

Vases . . . each \$3.00 to 23.00 Candlesticks, each 5.50 to 12.50 Berry Bowls, each 14.00 to 19.50 Compotiers, each 10.50 to 31.00 War Revenue tax of 5 per cent. additional (First Floor)

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